

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 2, 2012  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 17, 2012  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 9, 2012

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1523**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Perea**

January 18, 2012

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An act to add Article 7.6 (commencing with Section 54755) to Chapter 9 of Part 29 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Education Code, relating to career technical education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1523, as amended, Perea. Career technical education: transportation for the 21st century partnership academies.

Existing law provides for the establishment of partnership academies by participating school districts and establishes criteria qualifying pupils in grades 10, 11, and 12 for enrollment in the academies. Existing law establishes the parameters for the Superintendent of Public Instruction to issue grants to school districts maintaining high schools that meet the partnership academy eligibility requirements.

This bill would establish one new category of partnership academies, the transportation for the 21st century partnership academy. Commencing with the ~~2012-13~~ 2013-14 school year, when funds become available for additional partnership academies, as specified, the Superintendent would be required to issue grants for the establishment of partnership academies in each geographical area of the California High-Speed Rail Project's planned 10 project sections, and would be required to give priority to partnership academies

dedicated to educating pupils in transportation for the 21st century. The selection of school districts to establish the new partnership academies and the planning and development of the new partnership academies would be required to be conducted pursuant to the procedures and requirements established for all partnership academies under existing law. The bill would provide that the funding priorities it creates may be satisfied when the specified number of transportation for the 21st century partnership academies are funded, as specified.

The bill, in the event a school district applies to convert an existing school program to a transportation for the 21st century partnership academy and meets all the specified criteria for that new partnership academy, would authorize the ~~department~~ *State Department of Education*, in coordination with the Superintendent, to provide that academy with first-year implementation funds. In order to be eligible for funding for a transportation for the 21st century partnership academy, the bill would require the coursework and internship or preapprenticeship programs of the proposed academy to focus on the use of environmentally sound technologies and practices. ~~This~~ *The* bill would require staff development opportunities to be included in the academy plans.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Article 7.6 (commencing with Section 54755) is  
2 added to Chapter 9 of Part 29 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the  
3 Education Code, to read:

4  
5 Article 7.6. Transportation for the 21st Century Partnership  
6 Academies

7  
8 54755. (a) Commencing with the ~~2012-13~~ *2013-14* school  
9 year, when funds become available for additional partnership  
10 academies within the total number of grants available for all  
11 partnership academies pursuant to Section 54691, the  
12 Superintendent shall issue grants for the establishment of  
13 partnership academies and shall give priority to the establishment  
14 of partnership academies dedicated to educating pupils in  
15 transportation for the 21st century until no less than one

1 transportation for the 21st century partnership academy has been  
2 established in each geographical area of the California High-Speed  
3 Rail Project's planned 10 project sections. The academies may  
4 include, but are not limited to, educating pupils in construction,  
5 engineering, operations, maintenance, manufacturing of rolling  
6 stock, mechanical functions, equipment operations, and information  
7 technology.

8 (b) (1) The selection of school districts to establish the  
9 transportation for the 21st century partnership academies and the  
10 planning and development of the transportation for the 21st century  
11 partnership academies shall be conducted pursuant to the  
12 procedures and requirements established in Section 54691 for all  
13 partnership academies. The planning grants shall be made available  
14 for academies pursuant to this article from the total number of  
15 grants established pursuant to Section 54691.

16 (2) In the event a school district applies to convert an existing  
17 school program to a partnership academy and meets all the criteria  
18 for a partnership academy pursuant to Section 54692 and paragraph  
19 (3), the department, in coordination with the Superintendent, may  
20 provide that academy with first-year implementation funds, as  
21 appropriate.

22 (3) (A) In order to be eligible for funding pursuant to this article,  
23 the coursework and internship or preapprenticeship programs of  
24 the proposed academy shall focus on the use of environmentally  
25 sound technologies and practices. The proposed academy shall  
26 demonstrate this through its efforts to obtain input from  
27 environmental industry, utilities, and professional trade  
28 organizations.

29 (B) Staff development opportunities also shall be included in  
30 the academy plans to ensure that teaching staff has the opportunity  
31 to be educated in the use of emerging technologies and to become  
32 familiar with new materials and current practices in the field.

33 (c) The priority established in this section may be satisfied when  
34 the specified number of transportation for the 21st century  
35 partnership academies meeting the requirements of this article are  
36 funded by any of, or a combination of, funds appropriated for the  
37 establishment of partnership academies.